

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A tube for a microscope, comprising:

an adaptation interface configured to convey a light beam from the microscope along an optical axis;  
a rotatably disposed operator interface;  
a beam deflecting device including a beam-splitting device; and  
a rotatably disposed beam deflecting unit disposed on a side of the optical axis opposite the operator interface, a rotation of the operator interface being constrainedly coupled to a rotation of the beam deflecting unit;

wherein the beam deflecting device is configured to split, into at least a first partial beam and a second partial beam, a light beam coming from the adaptation interface, and downstream of the splitting, to deflect at least a portion of the first partial light beam away from the operator interface and the second partial beam in a direction of the beam deflecting unit and away from the operator interface;

Claim 2 (original): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein the beam deflecting device includes a deflecting prism.

Claim 3 (original): The tube as recited in claim 2 wherein the deflecting prism is configured to deflect by 90 degrees the light beam coming from the adaptation interface.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein the beam-splitting device includes a Bauernfeind prism configured to reflect therein twice the at least a portion of the light second partial beam.

Claim 5 (original): The tube as recited in claim 4 wherein the beam deflecting device includes a deflecting prism configured to deflect by 90 degrees the light beam coming from the adaptation interface, and wherein the Bauernfeind prism is disposed between the deflecting prism and the beam deflecting unit.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The tube as recited in claim 5 wherein the beam-splitting device includes an optical component associated with the Bauernfeind prism, the optical component being configured to split the light beam coming from the adaptation interface into ~~the~~ first and second partial beams.

Claim 7 (original): The tube as recited in claim 6 wherein the optical component includes a prism attached to the Bauernfeind prism.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The tube as recited in claim 7 wherein the prism is cemented to the Bauernfeind prism.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein optical properties of the beam deflecting device are selectable so that a length of an a-respective optical path of the light beam at least one of the first and second partial beams in the tube is adaptable.

Claim 10 (original): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the beam splitter device is movable into and out of a working position.

Claim 11 (original): The tube as recited in claim 10 wherein at least a portion of the beam splitter device is movable into and out of the working position guided by a magazine slider.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein the operator interface and the beam deflecting unit are rotatable about a rotation axis, the rotation axis being perpendicular to ~~an~~ the optical axis of the light beam.

Claim 13 (original): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein, upon a rotation of the operator interface through a first angle, the beam deflecting unit is configured to rotate through a second angle half as large as the first angle.

Claim 14 (original): The tube as recited in claim 1 further comprising a lens device disposed between the adaptation interface and the beam deflecting device, the lens device having a positive refractive power.

Claim 15 (original): The tube as recited in claim 14 wherein the lens device is configured to convert a substantially collimated light beam into a converging light beam.

Claim 16 (original): The tube as recited in claim 1 further comprising a lens device rotatably disposed between the beam deflecting unit and the operator interface, the lens device including a first lens having a negative refractive power and a second lens having a positive refractive power.

Claim 17 (original): The tube as recited in claim 16 wherein the first lens is configured to substantially collimate a light beam coming from the beam deflecting device.

Claim 18 (original): The tube as recited in claim 17 further comprising a telescopic assembly telescopicable in a direction of an optical axis of a light beam extending therein, the second lens and the operator interface being included in the telescopic assembly.

Claim 19 (original): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein the operator interface includes a binocular element configured for eyepiece viewing by an operator.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The tube as recited in claim 1 wherein the beam-splitting device is configured to split off the first partial beam a first portion of the light beam coming from the adaptation interface to at least one of a documentation interface and a detector.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The tube as recited in claim 20 wherein the beam-splitting device includes a Bauernfeind prism configured to reflect therein twice the a second partial beam portion of the light beam and includes an optical component associated with the Bauernfeind prism, the optical component being configured to split off the first partial beam portion of the light beam to at least one of the documentation interface and the detector.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The tube as recited in claim 21 wherein the optical component includes a prism attached to the Bauernfeind prism.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The tube as recited in claim 22 wherein the prism is cemented to the Bauernfeind prism.